

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Congress of the United States to
2 propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to allow Congress and the
3 states to establish reasonable limits on spending to influence elections.

4 WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States protects
5 the rights of citizenship, including the freedom of speech; and

6 WHEREAS, the freedom of speech is constitutionally subject to reasonable limits
7 with respect to the means, time, place, and manner of exercising the freedom of speech,
8 and expending money to influence elections is another means of speech that is subject to
9 reasonable limits; and

10 WHEREAS, the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of
11 *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* authorized unlimited spending by special
12 interest groups in an effort to influence the outcome of elections, thereby curtailing the
13 effectiveness of ordinary citizens who are striving to make their views known and voices
14 heard in the electoral process; and

15 WHEREAS, the federal government and state governments should regulate the
16 expenditure of money to influence elections to ensure that all citizens, regardless of their
17 economic status, have optimal access to the political process, and that no person obtains
18 substantially greater access or ability to influence the political process than other citizens;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States is urgently
21 required to protect the cause of self-government by the people, to secure political equality
22 among the people, and to preserve the integrity of the electoral process;

23 NOW, THEREFORE,

24 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
25 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:***

26 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky calls
27 upon the Congress of the United States to propose and send to the states for ratification an

1 amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing federal and state
2 legislation to establish reasonable limits on spending to influence elections.

3 ➔Section 2. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the President and Vice
4 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
5 the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader
6 of the United States Senate, the Minority Leader of the United States Senate, and each
7 member of the Kentucky delegation to the Congress of the United States.